

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: )  
Daisuke Matsumoto ) Group Art Unit: 3734  
Serial No.: 10/577,541 ) Examiner: Schubert, Christopher  
Filed: April 28, 2006 ) Confirmation No.: 9838  
For: LANCET AND LANCING APPARATUS ) Date: November 22, 2011

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

MAILSTOP: RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is responsive to the Final Office Action dated June 23, 2011 in the above application. In view of the following amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

**Amendments to the Claims**

The claims are amended as shown on the following pages under the heading "LIST OF CURRENT CLAIMS". The list shows the status of all claims presently in the application including any current amendments. This list of claims is intended to supersede all prior listing(s) of the claims in the application. Any cancellation of claims is made without prejudice or disclaimer.